Amendment of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939

*424. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have proposed an amendment to section 38 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 to enable the State Government to issue of fitness certificates to Motor Vehicles; and

(b) if so, whether Government have since cleared the same and if not, what are reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal empowering the State Government to authorise private testing stations for issue of fitness certificates in respect of specified categories of vehicles forms part of the proposed comprehensive legislation to replace the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. As the Central legislation would be applicable throughout the country, separate legislation by the State Government has not been considered essential. The position has been clarified to the State Government.

Conversion of Guwahati-Tinsukia line into broad gauge

*427. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Metre Gauge line from Guwahati to Tinsukia does not cover the major towns of the region in Upper Assam; and

(b) whether Government propose to take steps for conversion of this line into Broad gauge and to extend the line to connect the major towns of Upper Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Some district towns are not on direct MG line between Guwahati and Tinsukia.

(b) Surveys for BG line from Guwahati to Dibrugarh/Tinsukia via Nagaon, Jorhat and Sibsagar and alternatively for conversion of existing MG line via Lumding-Dimapur into BG have been carried out. Survey Reports have been forwarded to Planning Commission for consideration.

Recommendation of the Committee out working of Central Universities

*429. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 78 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd January, 1985 and state:

(a) the number and details of the recommendations made by the Committee on working of the Central Universities and accepted by Government; and

(b) the extent to which the accepted recommendations have been implemented by each Central University and its impact on the new education policy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government had appointed an Empowered Committee to examine the Report of the Review Committee and take decisions on them. While the work of the Empowered Committee was in progress, the Government had initiated a comprehensive review of the National Policy on Education. In the formulation of the Policy, the recommendations made in the Report were also taken into account.

Steps to check infant mortality rate

*434. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of the steps Government are taking to check the rising trend in infant mortality?